

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the present application in view of these preliminary amendments to the claims and specification.

Applicants note that a first Preliminary Amendment was filed on October 13, 2005.

Status of the Claims

In the present Reply, claims 1-6 have been amended. Also, claim 26 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Further, claims 27-28 have been added. Thus, claims 1-25 and 27-28 are pending in the present application.

No new matter has been added by way of these amendments and new claims, because each amendment and new claim is supported by the present specification and/or is editorial in nature. For example, the amendment to claim 1 has support at least in canceled claim 26 and in the present specification at page 2, line 25; page 11, lines 4-7; page 27, lines 21-23; and the various ingredients recited at page 13, line 4 to page 27, line 19 (see also the present dependent claims that recite an additional ingredient). The amendments to claims 2-5 are for proper antecedent basis. Also, the amendment to claim 6 is supported in the present specification in the paragraph bridging pages 2-3. Given the nature of these amendments, Applicants thus preserve any equivalents to the amended features. New claims 27-28 are drawn to different embodiments of the present invention. Support for these new claims are found in throughout the present specification, which includes the Examples as described starting at page 33.

No new matter has been added with the amendments to the present specification, as these amendments correct typographical errors.

Based on the above considerations, entry of the present Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

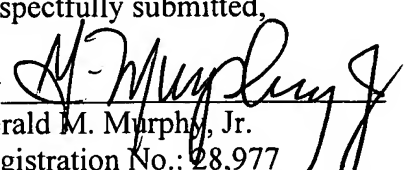
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. (Reg. No. 28,977) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: MAY 17 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By


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